

Victoria Street Newz

September 2012

Since 2004

Volume 9,

Number 6



Postage paid Post payé

Publications Mail Poste-publications

41642017

*"All the news that fits,
we print"*

**Sold by
donation**
vendor cost:
50 cents

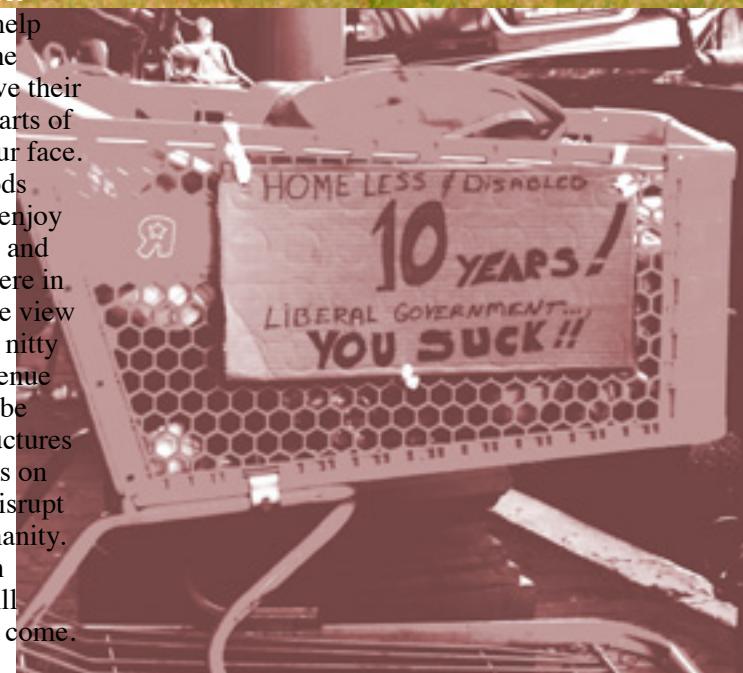
Build a City, Save a City

by Mark Idczak



Camp Compassion is at Woodwynn Farms (woodwynnfarms.org)

Let's build a city with a proper vision. You could have big developments that could be beneficial to all inhabitants rich and poor, small, big and tall young, and old. But instead of a generic money making metropolis with towering structures providing human filing cabinets, there should be affordable housing for all. And safe buildings to help people from the harsh evils of life on the street. Huge ostentatious structures have their place as part of economic ventures in parts of the downtown core, but not totally in our face. Preserve the old heritage neighbourhoods for the glory and growth of families to enjoy the parks and gardens. Build with love and care. Don't build skyscrapers everywhere in this city oh so pretty, they will block the view and a rich ghetto will be created – very nitty gritty. City council can build more revenue with something new when they should be busy planning (building) beneficial structures to help all. And keeping the lawkeepers on the beat while cleaning up the street. Disrupt the corrupt so they won't interrupt humanity. Living the natural way. Keep the green spaces and save the trees. Then you will save lives for generations, till kingdom come. Save a City Now!!



About Street Newz

Coordinator: Janine Bandcroft
Distribution Coordinator: John Chomyn
Deliveries: Nancy Raycroft
Advisory Committee:
Chris Cook, Robin Hitt,
James Rowe, Kim Fagerlund.

Founded in 2004, the *Victoria Street Newz* welcomes written submissions including personal stories, interviews, event reviews, cartoons, poetry, photographs, or artwork, but we can't guarantee everything will be published. We reserve the right to edit, and will not print anything libelous, racist, sexist, or homophobic. Letters sent to the editor are assumed to be for publication, must include phone number or email (if possible, for confirmation) and may be edited for length. You can publish using a pseudonym, or anonymously.

We are devoted to a triple bottom line philosophy - concerned about our environmental and social, as well as financial, well-being.

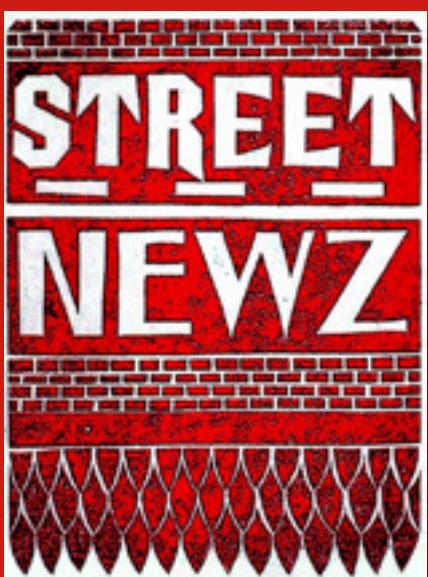
You can contribute to social change by supporting the *Victoria Street Newz* team, by pondering the root causes of poverty, and by working for peaceful, non-violent change.

Opinions expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of *Victoria Street Newz*, the editors, advertisers, contributors, readers, or publishers. Please don't reprint without author's permission, and please credit the source.

Victoria Street Newz is printed on 100% post consumer recycled paper with vegetable ink, at Web exPress Printing in Vancouver.

Your written submissions are welcome. Please send them via e-mail, if possible, by the 1st Friday for the next month's issue. Street Newz is named monthly, but published mid-month. You can also mail or drop off articles, letters, or donations to our mailbox at Raincoast Business Centre:

1027 Pandora Ave
Coast Salish Territory
Victoria, B.C., V8V 3P6
streetnewz@islandnet.com
250-383-5144 ext 0137
relativewanz.ca



just another rant

janinebandcroft.blogspot.com

"Sometimes people think that yoga (and anarchism) is about 'doing whatever you feel.' but actually, it's about taking great care of others, which takes a tremendous amount of discipline and courage."

--vegan/anarchist/yogi, Jessica Sage Stickler



If you think "smashed window" or "chaos" when you hear the word "Anarchy," you're a victim of the dominant culture and its efforts to oversimplify, divide, compartmentalize, and conquer. Reducing a complex worldview to the sum of one of its parts doesn't encourage thoughtful analysis, it only creates fear and encourages more militaristic status quo.

Similarly, complex theories of "Socialism" and "Communism" are often associated with authoritarian rulers who existed within the old patriarchal hierarchies, replacing the goal of equality with the much simpler quest for personal power and authoritarian control.

At their core, both Anarchist and Socialist theories are about equality. Socialists hope to fairly distribute wealth and resources from within existing hierarchical structures. They elect representatives and attempt to hold them to the cause. Anarchists suggest it's impossible to implement a horizontal theory (equality) from within a hierarchical structure (government). It's certainly not easy. At the June 2011 BC NDP (New Democrat Party) convention in Vancouver there was talk about removing the word "socialist" from the preamble to their constitution.¹ Or, consider Franklin D. Roosevelt's "socialist" efforts to ease the 1930s crisis. He "expanded the administrative powers of his office,"² created employment by enlarging the civil service, and implemented social programs that benefitted the general population rather than just the 1%. But FDR also abused the power he gave himself, and when he left office the power didn't leave with him, it remained with the presidency. Since FDR's time there are many examples of presidents abandoning the democratic process and governing with the new executive power FDR left behind.³

Anarchists reject any and all authority, and instead ascribe to localized, rather than global or national, organizing. In "Canada," Anarchists will tell you they don't recognize the nation-state because the structures of government, at all levels, are founded on the theft of land and the murder of the original inhabitants. They say it's impossible to build an egalitarian system from within an illegitimate hierarchy. Anarchists would rather smash the state – some, literally – and organize locally.

Russian Anarchist Mikhail Bakunin (1814-1876) wrote, in *Marxism, Freedom and the State*, "I am a convinced upholder of economic and social equality, because I know that, without that equality, liberty, justice, human dignity, morality, and the well-being of individuals as well as the prosperity of nations will never be anything else than so many lies. But as upholder in all circumstances of liberty, that first condition of humanity, I think that liberty must establish itself in the world by the spontaneous organisation of labour and of collective ownership by productive associations freely organised and federalised in districts, and by the equally spontaneous federation of districts, but not by the supreme and tutelary action of the State."⁴

Anarchy is not about creating a chaotic society with no rules, it's about evolving as functional and involved citizens who require no rulers. Anarchy rejects the idea of authority in any relationship, including familial. Of course there are times when leadership is necessary, when a guardian protects a child from being hit by a car, or when a meeting needs to be organized to prioritize tasks. Leaders emerge when necessary, but the position isn't cast in stone. Leaders emerge, and depart as needed. Decisions are made collectively, using a consensus model.

It follows that Anarchists reject ideas of "God" as authoritarian ideology. That is not to say that Anarchists are necessarily opposed to spirituality. Quakers, for example, believe that each of us has the essence of life (which individuals from a Christian background sometimes define as God) within us. When George Fox travelled around England in the 1600s telling people they could sit quietly and listen to their "inner voice," or interpret the bible themselves rather than just blindly follow their preachers, it's no surprise that he and his followers were duly prosecuted. Quaker business decisions are based on consensus, and the rights of women, and GBLTQ people, and Native rights, and concern for the natural world, have been important to Quakers for centuries.

Similarly, Buddhism focuses primarily on the teachings rather than the teacher, encouraging each to find and follow a path that includes ahimsa (non-violence), purity of thought, word, and deed. Taoists strive for a life of harmony with the indefinable and eternal Tao (the way, the flow of the universe). And Yogis look to ancient teachings, and modern teachers, but ultimately the practice of yoga focuses on an individual's self-discipline and restrained ego.

And those of us who look to alternative/complimentary Healers honour their teachings, but ultimately we look inside for our answers, and support our bodies to heal themselves rather than imposing healing upon them. That's kind of anarchist, too.

I think of Anarchy when I walk in a forest. There, the magical

diversity of creation is strewn about, randomly. I don't see a Creator, I see a Creation. And the collective energy of that creation, of which I am a part, moves continually forward with determination to survive, shaping and reshaping ecosystems and all their components. What if there is no Creator, what if we're all just subunits of energy, manifest in various forms, each inherently equal but stuck inside various infrastructures (bodies, governments, schools, hospitals) that force a ranked system, a hierarchy, upon us? What if "God" is All of us?

In pre-industrial times, the earth and everything in creation was perceived as animate, alive. Then came the Scientific Revolution and philosophical thinkers like René Descartes who taught that the brain, rather than the body or the spirit, is what defines us (I think therefore I am), and Francis Bacon whose scientific method insists on empirical and measurable evidence, or Antonie Philips van Leeuwenhoek's reductionist approach to nature.⁵ These men, and others, contributed to a fundamental shift in the dominant worldview. "Witches," or herbalists, were burned over generations. Pagans (aka country dwellers and agriculturalists), were defamed. The magic of transformation through Alchemy was dismissed, power was removed from the collective and placed in the hands of scientists playing at being "God." Their efforts to understand (and control) nature by reducing it to the interaction of its parts encouraged a mechanistic view of nature. No doubt this power-over-nature philosophy contributed to the already established social hierarchies that wielded increasing amounts of power over growing populations.

Ultimately, people are not merely "Anarchists," or "Socialists," or "Capitalists." We are individuals who function within family units, with or without spiritual or religious beliefs or affiliations, and with varying opinions on the importance of nature (including non-human animals) versus the extent to which the earth and her creatures ought to be exploited for human "need" or comfort. We've each been shaped by the dominant culture (and perhaps a bit by the alternative cultures too), by the scientific revolution, by money (or lack thereof), and by various hierarchical infrastructures or authoritarian figures/energy we encounter in our daily interactions. We also, each of us, have "anarchist moments." I invite you to recognize and enjoy those!

Here's what's Anarchy is not. Anarchy is not about taking something beautiful, like the human capacity for athleticism, commodifying it for the purposes of competition and profit, then using that beautiful ability as an excuse to further impoverish the poor by decimating entire neighbourhoods, taking over cities, and militarizing the world, as the International Olympic Committee Empire is doing.⁶

Anarchy deserves a much more complex discussion than "radical window smasher." A Black Bloc representative informed me, during the G8 protests in Calgary 2002, that their movement began when young men wearing bandanas stood between the police and peaceful protesters. They saw police brutality and were willing to spare the civilians and take the blows. How and why Black Bloc has become synonymous with property damage is worth an investigation.

Anarchy, to me, is about a constant quest to unlearn, to dismiss the racism and sexism and homophobia and ageism and other damaging consequences of the brain's colonization, and to relearn, to remember, to imagine and dream. To paraphrase the anonymous woman of history made famous by Monty Python's Holy Grail, speaking to Arthur, "I didn't know we had a King. I thought we were an Autonomous Collective."⁷

Sources:

¹ rabble.ca/blogs/bloggers/james-laxer/2011/06/bulletin-ndp-socialism-1796-2011-dead-rip

² cstl-cla.semo.edu/renka/ui320-75/presidents/roosevelt/fdr-expansion.asp

³ www.heritage.org/research/reports/2001/02/the-use-and-abuse-of-executive-orders-and-other-presidential-directives

⁴ flag.blackened.net/daver/anarchism/bakunin/marxnfrees.html

⁵ thingsrevealed.net/dscrtnbacn.htm, morrisberman.blogspot.ca

⁶ www.smartplanet.com/blog/cities/2016-olympics-brazils-vision-comes-with-mass-evictions/2388

⁷ www.sacred-texts.com/neu/mpgh/mpgh.htm#Scene%201

Janine was greatly influenced by Morris Berman's book, *The Re-Enchantment of the World*, and holds fast to a dream for an "Ancient Future."



Anarchist Bookfair - 2012

150 Years of Colonialism: 150 Years of Resistance

The City of Victoria, located on unceded Lekwungen Territory, is this year celebrating 150 years of colonialism through events that promote historical erasure. The Victoria Anarchist Bookfair will respond with illuminating stories of historical and ongoing colonialism while celebrating 150 years of resistance. As a catalyst for putting learning into action, we are also mobilizing to build opposition against the Northern Gateway Pipeline and other such proposals, which are a glaring example of ongoing colonialism on the West Coast. We are proud to have received Monday Magazine's 'M Award' for Victoria's best literary event in 2009.

**September 8th and 9th, Fernwood NRG Community Hall
1240 Gladstone Ave, Victoria, BC, Lekwungen Territory
www.victoriaanarchistbookfair.ca**

Free University!

University 101 is a program that offers FREE, non-credit, academic courses that will engage students to a wide range of university topics.

We try to support our students as much as possible, so meals are provided at the beginning of each class. Bus tickets and child care subsidies are also available.

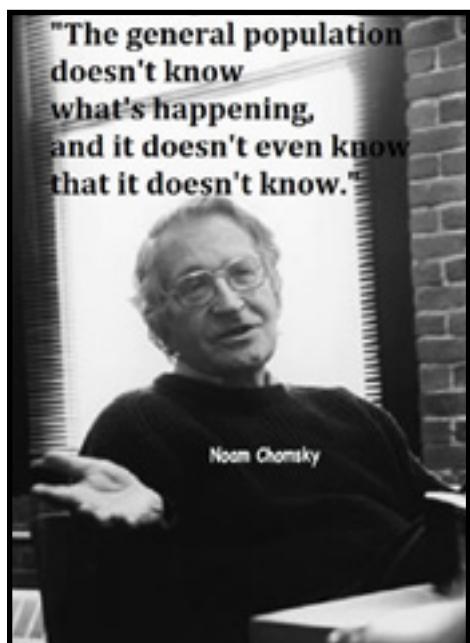
What is the goal of University 101 and 102?

To provide introductory academic courses to people whose economic and social circumstances normally pose obstacles to university education.

Why do a course like University 101 or 102?

Because critical thinking and a passion for learning are elements of citizenship that can and should be shared amongst everyone.

Humanities and Social Sciences give us ways to understand our own society and history.



What courses are offered?

University 101 is an introductory course in the Humanities.

University 102 is an introductory course in the Social Sciences.

Our next course will be: Uni 101 Humanities. Application Deadline for Sept 2012 Uni 101 Humanities: Aug 23, 2012

Application Deadline for Jan 2013 Uni 102 Social Sciences: Nov 19, 2012

For more information visit web.uvic.ca/uni101

Occupy the Conventions -- BOTH Conventions

by Mickey Z.

"I think voting is the opium of the masses in this country. Every four years you deaden the pain."
--Emma Goldman

Why doesn't Occupy run candidates?

You can add this misguided query to the growing list, along with: Where are their demands? Why aren't there any leaders? Blah, blah, blah...

To address the election-year silliness, please allow me to flashback to August 2004 when the Republican National Convention was held in my hometown: New York City. At the time, I questioned the Anybody-But-Bush strategy of only protesting the Republicans when the Democrats were (and remain) barely distinguishable and equally culpable. Over and over, I wondered: "Where was the planned-for-months-in-advance outrage at the Democratic Convention in Boston last month? The Hitler mustaches? The warnings about fascism? The cataloging of candidate crimes?"

I also pondered the efficacy of "anti-authority types submitting to New York's demands for polite opposition restricted to a pre-determined venue."

In another article, I explained:

"By equating U.S. military intervention with the Bush regime, the anti-war crowd is aiding and abetting this subterfuge. Anti-war doesn't just mean anti-Bush or anti-Republican and it isn't a useful mask to wear at an election season costume party. The label "anti-war" signifies one as being against war no matter what political party has commenced the invasion, the bombing, the sanctions, or the covert operations. Until the anti-war movement is guided by genuine anti-war sentiment, it'll play right into the hands of the two-party (sic) game -- a game with no long term winners."

"I think it is dangerous to confuse the idea of democracy with elections. Just because you have elections doesn't mean you're a democratic country."

--Arundhati Roy

Fast-forward eight years and the usual (liberal) suspects are now howling: Why doesn't Occupy run candidates. I addressed this issue -- in detail -- back in January and I urge you to fully read and widely share my article, "De-Occupy the Two-Party Fraud: #Vote4Me?" In that piece, I offered a brief history of Democrats from Truman to Obama and specifically broke down how and why the U.S. electoral system is rigged -- before ending with this flourish:

What happened in 2008 is an excellent illustration of how system handles dissent: A black face, a soothing voice, and a vague message of change -- all designed to keep rabble pacified without changing anything at all.

Best news from 2011: The rabble is no longer pacified.

In 2012: Let's recognize that choosing to #Occupy is more powerful than choosing to vote. Let's Mic Check the bogus debates. Let's expose and reject the Lesser Evil ploy. Let's make it clear that we're on to their bullshit and we're ready to protect the future we share with all life on the planet.

"Anarchists know that a long period of education must precede any great fundamental change in society, hence they do not believe in vote begging, nor political campaigns, but rather in the development of self-thinking individuals." --Lucy Parsons

Seven months after my election year article was first posted, I'm thrilled to witness how OWS has not resorted to the dead end of trying to "change the system from within" and is instead scheming to occupy both the Republican and Democratic conventions. (insert sigh of relief here).

Here's a list of just some of the planned Occupy and Occupy-friendly events:

Food Not Bombs World Gathering
Location: Tampa, FL: August 20-26

Occupy Wall Street takes over Republican National Convention
Location: Tampa, FL: August 26-31

Occupy Caravan: RNC to DNC / Tampa to Charlotte / Ride Share
Location: Tampa, FL to Charlotte, NC: August 31

Occupy the Military-Industrial Complex
Location: Charlotte, NC: Sept. 4

Occupy to Free Bradley Manning (Dance Party)
Location: Charlotte, NC: Sept. 2

Also: The Coalition to March on Wall Street South is hoping to unite a broad group of social justice, labor, and community organizations to coordinate demonstrations during the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, NC from Sept. 1-6, 2012.

"Let's not change bosses. Let's change life." (Paris graffiti, 1968)

If it still doesn't seem abundantly clear why both conventions -- and both wings of the single corporate party -- must be occupied, remember that when Barack Obama was inaugurated in January 2009, he clearly and firmly announced to the planet:

"We will not apologize for our way of life, nor will we waver in its defense."

In 16 words, the Pope of Hope reminded the planet that both parties are the parties of consumption, the parties of greed, the parties of exploitation, the parties of oppression, the parties of misinformation, the parties of war, and the parties of ecocide.

The next time someone asks why OWS isn't running candidates or explains (sic) how Romney is so much worse than Obama, gently remind them:

Our beloved way of life was built on a nearly exterminated indigenous population, an African slave trade, and all those killed in places like Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Southeast Asia, Central America, Middle East, etc. etc.

Our way of life was created on stolen land, using stolen oil.

Our way of life was and is built on terror and is maintained by terror -- the terror of cops, prisons, the military, and the psychological terror of propaganda.

With the point of no return fading in the rearview mirror (or at least obscured by an Hummer), the time is long overdue for all of us to recognize how "our way of life" makes us the real terrorists.

The precarious state of things on Planet Earth is not some preordained theology or an unstoppable force of nature. We're in this mess thanks to human decisions. If different decisions had been made in the past, different outcomes would've likely occurred. If different decisions are made and different actions are taken -- starting right now -- perhaps different outcomes can still transpire.

Mic Check: I say we find out...

Here's one more thing I wrote during the 2004 presidential election sham:

"Activism is not about hating one person or one party ... it is holistic. Even in the face of urgent issues, dissent is a marathon -- not a sprint."

Thanks to Occupy, the real race is finally being run.

Mickey Z. is the author of 11 books, most recently the novel Darker Shade of Green. Until the laws are changed or the power runs out, he can be found on an obscure website called Facebook. This article first appeared at © WorldNewsTrust.com and is republished with permission.



7/7 AFTER SEVEN: BOMBS AND LIES IN LONDON

(Third of Three Parts)

In the July and August editions of *Street Newz*, we began looking at Dr. Nick Kollerstrom's brilliant new exposé, *Terror on the Tube*, which makes a compelling case that the bombings in London on July 7th, 2005, were not really carried out by four young Muslim "suicide terrorists" but by black ops commandos of the British army's Force Reconnaissance Regiment to terrify the public so they would continue supporting the phony war on terrorism in general and the bogus wars in Afghanistan and Iraq in particular.

Let's look now at six more of the key points made by Kollerstrom:

- *Although none of the four alleged suicide bombers had ever expressed extremist views or shown any terrorist sympathies prior to 7/7, after their deaths they were demonized as "wicked Islamic jihadists" in a steady stream of leaks to the news media from British, American and Israeli intelligence agencies – including a highly suspect "terrorist video" of Mohammed Sidique Khan, which turned up mysteriously at the office of the Al-Jazeera news network in Qatar.*

If the four alleged suicide bombers were really "secret Islamic extremists," they all did a remarkably good job of concealing that fact from even their closest relatives and friends. Prior to 7/7, all four gave every indication of being normal, well-adjusted young men who had many friends and were involved in sports and a variety of other community activities.

Mohammed Sidique Khan was a well-respected primary school teacher in Leeds who spent much of his spare time working with police and social agencies to help troubled youths. Neither he nor his family had shown any "jihadist" sympathies and, indeed, his wife Hasina Patel was an advocate for women's rights and an outspoken critic of the Taliban. Khan was especially proud of his young daughter and seemed to have every reason to want to continue living. Those who knew Hasib Hussein described the 18-year-old as a "gentle giant" who was always laughing and joking with friends and had shown little interest in politics. They say he was looking forward to beginning studies at Leeds Metropolitan University in the fall of 2005, having just passed his entrance exams with distinctions in four out of five subjects.

Shehzad Tanweer's great passion had always seemed to be cricket, not politics. Indeed, his two best friends Aziz Mohammed and Mohammed Anwar recall chatting about cricket with Tanweer shortly before 7/7 and say he appeared to be enjoying life and was talking happily about the future.

Similarly, everyone who knew Germaine Lindsay say he seemed like a perfectly normal 19-year-old. His closest friend Maz Milenovic, who saw Lindsay just days before 7/7, says he appeared to be "very happy and relaxed" and gave absolutely no hint of any dark suicidal plans.

But immediately after 7/7 the news media were flooded with stories demonizing these four young men as "fanatical Islamic terrorists" and "devoted followers of Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda". Not surprisingly, practically all of these stories were fed to the media by British, American and Israeli intelligence agents.

For example, there were many stories that Hasib Hussein had spent much of his time in high school circulating "anti-western hate literature" and trying to drum up support for radical Islamic causes. But the principal of the school Hussein had attended in Leeds, Colin Bell, says that is completely untrue. "Actually," Bell says, "Hasib Hussein was a well-liked and well-behaved student and he was never involved in pamphleteering or any other political activities."

To this day most of the closest relatives and friends of the alleged suicide bombers don't believe the official story of 7/7. They are convinced the four young men were framed and the "evidence" against them was fabricated – but many of these skeptics, especially members of the Muslim community, are afraid to speak out publicly for fear of

reprisals against themselves and their families.

Long-time friends of Mohammed Sidique Khan are especially skeptical about the authenticity of the so-called "smoking-gun videotape", which purports to show Khan delivering a "jihadist" speech. That tape turned up mysteriously one night, more than two months after 7/7, at the office of the Al-Jazeera news network in Qatar. We still don't know who produced this video or who delivered it secretly to Al-Jazeera.

But friends of Khan such as Ian Barrett and Rob Cardiff, who had known him for many years, think the video is almost certainly a fake. They say the way Khan speaks in the video is stilted and artificial, the tone and cadence of his voice is strange and unnatural, and different words and phrases appear to have been cobbled together digitally. Indeed, this tape is suspiciously reminiscent of the phony Osama bin Laden tapes that the U.S. authorities used to "sell" the 9/11 lies to the American public even long after bin Laden's death in 2001.

- *The authorities have waged a relentless campaign of persecution and intimidation against 7/7 critics, denouncing them as lunatics and traitors, jailing some for no reason and causing others to lose their jobs. One critic even died mysteriously after being put in a mental institution and "treated" with high doses of powerful drugs.*

If the authorities were telling the truth about 7/7, they would no doubt have welcomed questions about what happened so they could clear up any misunderstandings or confusion. Instead, however, anyone questioning or criticizing the official story of 7/7 has been viciously attacked as crazy, unpatriotic, a hate-monger or even a terrorist sympathizer.

Some 7/7 critics have lost their jobs, including the author of this book, Dr. Nick Kollerstrom, who was dismissed from the teaching post he had held at University College in London for more than a decade. Some other critics such as Anthony John Hill have been jailed for no justifiable reason. And almost all 7/7 critics have been bluntly warned that if they know what's good for them, they had better stop asking embarrassing questions about what happened on July 7th, 2005.

Even more disturbing is the fact that relatives and friends of the alleged bombers have been subjected to a relentless campaign of intimidation and many, including Mohammed Sidique Khan's wife Hasina Patel, have been thrown in jail arbitrarily. Indeed, ever since 7/7, the loyalty of the entire British Muslim community has been constantly called into question and this has, of course, had a chilling effect. Many Muslims are understandably afraid to speak out even though most of them are well aware the official story of 7/7 is completely fraudulent.

Most disturbing of all, however, was the mysterious death of high-profile activist and 7/7 critic Keith Mothersson. The physically fit 60-year-old died suddenly and unexpectedly after being placed in a mental hospital and given high doses of anti-psychotic drugs. Mothersson, a gentle ecumenical Buddhist, had always firmly believed in the old Biblical adage that "the truth will set you free" – but, unfortunately, it seems today that, in some cases at least, pursuing the truth might also get one killed. If there is ever an honest inquiry into 7/7, one of the most important questions that should be investigated is what happened to Keith Mothersson.

- *One of the saddest aspects of 7/7 was how the once proud and respected British judicial system prostituted itself by aiding and abetting the government in covering up the 7/7 fraud instead of maintaining its independence and pursuing the truth regardless of the consequences.*

Kollerstrom discusses in great detail in his book the series of "terror trials" and the official inquest held in the aftermath of 7/7, and he makes a convincing case that none of these legal proceedings were really exercises in the pursuit of truth and justice – they were actually exercises in

fraud reinforcement.

At each of the trials and the inquest it was made clear at the outset that everyone participating had to accept unconditionally the government's official version

of 7/7 and that no evidence could be presented nor could any questions be asked that cast any doubt whatsoever on the official story. Clearly, the fix was in.

For example, at the beginning of the official inquest in 2010, Madam Justice Heather Hallet publicly stated that her mandate was to "strike an appropriate balance" between pursuing justice in the court and protecting Britain's national security interests – which seemed to be a coded way of saying: "I'm going to make absolutely sure no one lets the cat out of the bag."

And, indeed, during the inquest, on the rare occasions when lawyers or witnesses raised even the slightest doubts or questions about any aspect of the official story, they were sharply rebuked and told no such comments or questions would be permitted.

Some legal concepts and conventions that had been an important part of British justice for centuries were arbitrarily swept aside during the 7/7 proceedings. For example, at one of the trials, 7/7 critic Anthony John Hill sent to the court a copy of a 7/7 video he had made, *The Ripple Effect*, for information purposes, acting as an *amicus curiae* (friend of the court) in accordance with longstanding judicial tradition. But not only did the court refuse to accept the video, Hill was thrown in jail for the duration of the trial. Later Hill was also jailed for five months while the official inquest was being held.

But by far the most shocking travesty of justice occurred at the so-called "Kingston Trial" in 2008 after a jury acquitted three young men accused of assisting the four alleged bombers. The embarrassed authorities insisted on trying the three men a second time but another jury also found them not guilty. Nonetheless, the judge sentenced two of the accused to seven years in jail on the astonishingly flimsy grounds that he believed the two had been planning to attend a terrorist training camp even though they had not actually done so.

After the mind-boggling proceedings at the "Kingston Trial", one can only wonder what ever happened to the concept of no double jeopardy in British justice – and one can only assume it must have disappeared along with the principle of respecting jury decisions!

- *Another sad part of the 7/7 story was the cowardly role played by Britain's mass media, including the BBC, which, instead of serving as vigilant watchdogs exposing the truth to the public, became pathetic lapdogs blindly accepting all of the government's lies and deceptions.*

When considering who was responsible for 7/7, we should of course direct our anger and contempt primarily at those who actually orchestrated and carried out this horrific fraud – but it is also very important to recognize that they couldn't have got away with it had it not been for the cowardly complicity of the British news media.

For whatever reason, even such news organizations as the BBC and *The Guardian*, once widely respected for their integrity, willingly swallowed all of the lies and deceptions the authorities fed to them – and, even worse, instead of exposing the 7/7 charade, they sometimes actively participated in it.



continued on page 5 ...

7/7 AFTER SEVEN ...

continued from page 4

One shocking example of this occurred on July 15th, 2005, at the so-called “police raid” on the Iqra Islamic Bookshop in Leeds. As part of their campaign to demonize alleged 7/7 ringleader Mohammed Sidique Khan, the authorities arranged for a dramatic raid on this “distribution centre for Muslim hate literature” at which Khan had worked as a volunteer.

Actually, the Iqra store was a long-established and well-respected Islamic community learning centre and its owner Naveed Fiaz offered to give police the keys to the shop so they could carry out a full inspection. But the police refused that offer, waited until lots of reporters and photographers were present and then smashed into the building with a battering ram.

Clearly the Iqra bookstore incident was a fraud within a fraud, so to speak. But instead of exposing this shameful farce, all of the news media just dutifully reported that police had raided “a Muslim hate-literature centre in Leeds” as part of their “continuing crackdown on Islamic extremists.”

As independent media critic Tony Gosling notes, the complicity of the BBC in the sordid 7/7 saga is particularly disappointing. “The BBC,” Gosling says, “crossed a lethal professional line when it decided to refer to the four 7/7 suspects as ‘suicide bombers.’ By rubber-stamping Muslim ‘guilt’ and ignoring Peter Power’s anti-terrorism drills, the Benjamin Netanyahu/Scotland Yard story and many other hard facts, the BBC took on a leading role in what amounted to an anti-Muslim pogrom.”

It is possible, of course, as some have suggested, that the news media and judiciary have helped the government cover up the 7/7 fraud for what they consider to be important reasons of “national security” and that they believe the country would be torn apart if people were told the truth about what really happened on July 7th, 2005.

But even if that is the reason why the media and judiciary have aided in the cover-up, their actions are still completely indefensible. No genuinely democratic society can be built on a foundation of lies and deceptions. If revealing the truth shattered some existing institutions and caused a great political upheaval, then so be it. Indeed, in the present circumstances, ripping the lid off Pandora’s Box would be a great blessing for our society – not a curse.

• An elaborate series of phony “terror threats” occurred in several British cities before and after July 7th, 2005, and they clearly seem to have been staged to whip up anti-Muslim hysteria and make it easier for the authorities to “sell” the official 7/7 story to the public.

During the four days prior to 7/7, there were highly-publicized “terrorist bomb scares” in Cardiff, Sheffield, Nottingham and the little Scottish village of Achterader. Though all of these incidents turned out to be hoaxes, they set the tone for 7/7 by creating widespread fear among the public that Britain appeared to be under siege by “Muslim jihadists.”

Similarly, in the days after 7/7, several more “phantom bomb scares” kept public fear at a fever pitch. For example, there were mass evacuations from the city centres of Birmingham and Leeds as well as from a music festival at Sheffield. Actually, of course, no one was harmed or was ever in any real danger in any of these incidents – it was all just “terror theatre” to stoke public fear and divert attention from what had really happened on 7/7.

As the months rolled by after 7/7, there continued to be more “terror scares” to reinforce the official message that the public should be very afraid that “wicked Muslims with bombs” were lurking everywhere – and this fear campaign culminated on August 9th, 2006, with the highly trumpeted arrests of 25 young British-born Muslims who were accused of plotting to blow up some airliners flying from Britain to the United States.

Despite dramatic lockdowns at Heathrow Airport, wildly inflammatory statements by a number of government officials and some embarrassingly rigged legal

proceedings, no credible evidence was ever produced to support that accusation.

Indeed, retired Lieutenant Colonel Nigel Wylde, a former British Army intelligence officer with decades of experience in anti-terror work, observed: “This whole ‘plot’ was a fiction invented by UK security services... to justify profitable and wide-ranging new security measures that threaten to permanently curtail civil liberties.”

• Many of the tricks and deceptions used in “selling” the 7/7 fraud to the British public were so similar to those used in “selling” the 9/11 fraud to the American public that it is quite evident the British authorities used 9/11 as a template for the 7/7 operation.

Indeed, the many similarities between the lies and deceptions of 7/7 and those of 9/11 will be quite apparent to those who read the three-part article, “9/11: ‘The Big Magic Trick’ Ten Years Later”, which was published in *Victoria Street Newz* in the September, October and November editions of 2011 [available in the archives at relativenewz.ca].

One of the key tricks the U. S. authorities used to “sell” the 9/11 lies was misrepresenting videotapes showing the alleged perpetrators. For example, millions of people around the world still believe they have seen a video showing alleged 9/11 ring-leader Mohammed Atta checking in at Boston’s Logan Airport that morning. Actually, however, they have seen nothing of the kind. That video, which has been shown gazillions of times on television, wasn’t really taken in Boston – it actually shows Atta checking in at an airport in Portland, Maine. To this day the U.S. authorities have not produced a single photo taken of Atta or any of the other 18 alleged hijackers at the airports on 9/11.

Similarly, with regard to 7/7, millions of people in Britain believe they have seen a video showing alleged 7/7 ring-leader Mohammed Sidique Khan cavorting with fellow “suicide bombers” Shehzad Tanweer and Germaine Lindsay in London on July 7th, 2005. Actually, however, that video which has been shown repeatedly on British television shows the three young Muslims during a shopping trip they made to London on June 28th, 2005.

Sadly, even though there is overwhelming evidence that both 9/11 and 7/7 were state-sponsored frauds, many people can’t bring themselves to face the horrifying reality of what happened in the United States on September 11th, 2001, and in Britain on July 7th, 2005. Why, they ask, can’t we just forget about 9/11 and 7/7 and move on? An excellent answer to that question is provided by American author and activist Kevin Barrett:

“The knowledge that we have been lied to so horribly about 9/11 and 7/7 is heartbreaking. So are all the horrors that grew from the lies: the mass murder of more than a million innocent people in Iraq and Afghanistan, the assault on freedom, and the torture and persecution of tens of thousands of people whose only crime is to profess the religion of Islam...

“Civilization rests on a bedrock faith in truth and knowledge. When that bedrock is shaken, civilization collapses. Those who have fabricated the Big Lie known as the ‘war on terror’ are like termites gnawing away at the foundations of civilization. The defenders of civilization are those who seek knowledge and proclaim the truth...

“The only way to even begin to atone for the horrors of 9/11 and 7/7 is to confront the lies that produced them. And we must confront those lies head on, with no equivocation or blathering excuses.”

Gordon Pollard is a native of Victoria, has a MA in History from Columbia University in New York City and a BA in History and English from the University of Victoria. After working for 10 years as a journalist in B.C., Alberta, and Ontario, Gordon spent 20 years teaching English and History in Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka.



2010 Anti-Poverty Olympic Torch is Moving Along -

from London 2012 to Sochi 2014

by rikki, indymedia



nearly a thousand people representing a smorgasbord of campaign groups marched together under the banner of the counter olympic network (CON) on saturday in east london. the march was followed by speeches in wennington green.

shortly after 1pm, the march set off from grove road, heading east along bow road. at the front were several members of DPAC (disabled people against cuts) in wheelchairs, their beef being with ATOS, the private firm contracted by government to “assess” disability allowance eligibility, and sponsor of the para-olympics. ATOS has ruled people with terminal cancer as eligible to work, and even suggested one person in a coma should not receive benefit. they receive massive amounts of public money to bother and terrify the most vulnerable in our society.

the negative effects of the olympics reach out in so many ways and touch so many people - it was extraordinary to see so many groups with a common focus - among them, unions, anti-cuts groups, anarchists, local campaign groups from displaced communities, those invaded by olympic facilities or missile bases, civil rights and right to protest groups, police monitoring groups, anti-corporate campaigners against G4S, Dow chemicals, and BP, and of course the socialists with their newspapers.

from midday on saturday, as people assembled on the slopes of mile end park, they were joined by an intrusion of police liaison officers in their baby-blue tabards, disarmingly chatting and joking with the more gullible members of the crowd, while carrying out their usual agenda of surveillance and intelligence gathering. meanwhile, a samba band tuned up, people made homemade banners, and friendly connections were made between the myriad campaign groups representing that day.

at the front were several members of DPAC (disabled people against cuts) in wheelchairs, their beef being with ATOS, the private firm contracted by government to “assess” disability allowance eligibility, and sponsor of the para-olympics. ATOS has ruled people with terminal cancer as eligible to work, and even suggested one person in a coma should not receive benefit. they receive massive amounts of public money to bother and terrify the most vulnerable in our society.

the negative effects of the olympics reach out in so many ways and touch so many people - it was extraordinary to see so many groups with a common focus - among them, unions, anti-cuts groups, anarchists, local campaign groups from displaced communities, those invaded by olympic facilities or missile bases, civil rights and right to protest groups, police monitoring groups, anti-corporate campaigners against G4S, Dow chemicals, and BP, and of course the socialists with their newspapers.

as the march approached bow roundabout, it peeled off to the left along fairfield road and past the bow quarter buildings, where a controversial missile base has been stationed on top of the water tower above residential buildings. there was quite a long wait there while the back of the march caught up. soldiers on the top of the tower watched, one with binoculars, as the protest chanted down below, “seb coe, hey ho, get your missiles out of bow”.

there was an incident near the rear of the march as someone tampered with the white cordon tapes that hemmed people in, and he was detained by police and searched. many on the march waited or ran back to show solidarity and support and demand his release.

continued on page 6

Anarchism in BC, a Very Brief History

by Larry Gambone

Anarchism is difficult to trace in during the first three decades of the 20th century. There was no organized movement, only a few individuals, or more correctly, rumours of individuals. One example, during the Coal Strike of 1912, an anarchist couple, originally from San Francisco, supposedly were involved in the defence of the miners. The previous year, a commune of counterfeiters on Nootka Island led by Russian revolutionary Albert Leon was arrested and deported to the USA. The press called him an anarchist. Was he? The word was thrown about with abandon by the press of the day. Vancouver might have had some anarchists among the Chinese and Japanese immigrants, since an influential, but persecuted, anarchist movement existed in those countries.

While there was no anarchist movement, there was certainly no lack of libertarian sentiment. The Socialist Party of Canada opposed state socialism as did the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) and the One Big Union (OBU), both of whom believed in direct action, self-management and direct democracy. At their zenith, 1912 for the IWW and Socialists, 1920 for the OBU, they had thousands of members and engaged in some spectacular free speech fights and strikes.

The latter half of the 1920s saw the libertarians lose much support to the Communist Party. Nonetheless, they still existed as tiny groups until the 1950s and beyond.

In 1949, two anarchists, George Woodcock and Doug Worthington, lived in Sooke. They were part of small but unorganized tendency of dissident leftists who were precursors of the 1960s New Left. Vancouver's syndicalist railway worker "Lefty" Morgan was another of the dissidents.

A small group of BC youth were inspired by the late 1950s struggle against nuclear weapons in the UK and the US Civil Rights Movement. They were also inspired by the anarchist-influenced Gandhi and the anarcho-pacifists Leo Tolstoy, Paul Goodman and Dorothy Day. The BC New Left developed from this sentiment.

The New Left direct-action faction of the Peace Movement was the League For Total Disarmament (LTD) organized in 1964. The LTD was influenced by the anarchist pacifist, Hans Sinn, and had members in White Rock, Gibson's Landing and Vancouver. About the same time an anarchist discussion group, the Libertarian League, was formed in Vancouver.

In 1965, the Comox Project brought together LTD and Libertarian League members and other pacifists in a summer long direct action against the installation of nuclear weapons at Comox Air Base. Coordinated by the anarchist-pacifist Peter Light, fifty seven people successfully blocked the base for 32 hours. Sixteen people were arrested.

Comox Project members went on to help develop the counter-culture (the so-called Hippies). Several Comox veterans enrolled at Simon Fraser University and immersed themselves in the New Left student movement. 1969 saw some student radicals, including the Comox veterans, become disenchanted with the increasingly Marxist-Leninist oriented New Left. Purely by accident, they came in contact with IWW delegate J.B. McAndrew and joined the IWW. McAndrew, a Wobbly since the early 1920s, though no anarchist himself, had a trunk full of syndicalist and anarchist literature which he freely gave out. Through McAndrew the SFU students came in contact with anarchist and UBC student Mark Warrior who had also joined the IWW and formed a campus branch. The SFU IWW became the defacto-anarchist faction at the university. The UBC IWW formed the Black Cross food service, offering better and cheaper food than the cafeteria - as well as access to radical literature. (The Anarchist Black Cross is a support group for political prisoners.)

In spring 1970, the SFU IWW joined with East End and Kitsilano counter-culturals to form Vancouver Yippie. After 18 months of intense activity, which included trashing the American consulate, invading the United States at Blaine, thus creating an international incident, stopping a mega-development in front of Stanley Park and destroying the career of right wing bozo Mayor Tom Campbell, Yippie dissolved.

The vast majority of Yippies were anarchist in spirit, but not necessarily in theory, still influenced by the then fashionable Maoism. A small number of Yippies, including Comox veterans, were ideological anarchists and worked to convince the others of a need for consistency, i.e., out and out anarchism. Largely influenced by the writings of Murray Bookchin, most Yippies became committed anarchists in the year after the organization broke up. An anarchist study circle was organized and a short-lived eco-anarchist group, the Volunteers, was launched in 1972. Three years later, a collective of ex-Yippies and other anarchists published the Open Road newspaper. From this point on, an anarchist movement has existed in BC, at first in Vancouver, but then in the Kootenays, the Gulf Islands and Victoria.

Sources:

Pre history of BC Anarchism

Fighting for Dignity, by Roger Stonebanks

Where the Fraser River Flows: The Industrial Workers of the World in British Columbia, by Mark Leier

The Impossibilists, by Larry Gambone

Early History, 1950s- early 1970s

The Gentle Anarchist: A Life of George Woodcock, by Doug Fetherling

Militant Minority, by Ben Isitt

Red Lion Publishing - vcmtalk.com

Past Tense: fragments of vancouver history and reflections thereon- pasttensevancouver.wordpress.com/2011/06/23/summer-of-yippie

Late 1970s to 1990s

Only A Beginning, by Alan Antliff

Larry Gambone grew up on Vancouver Island, attended SFU, was involved in the early anti-nuclear movement, the student movement, the IWW, the Vancouver Yippies and the Open Road newspaper. Did a number of zines and a lot of self-publishing. Has recently rejoined the IWW as a member of the Vancouver Island branch.

Passing the Torch ... *continued from page 5*

after a few minutes, police, who claimed they'd seen him with a knife but couldn't produce one in the search, released him, and the crowd fed into wennington green at around 3pm.

there, a small makeshift stage was set up, and people listened to a string of speakers, while the 'woodcraft folk' provided some entertainment for kids.

first speaker was brian richardson who spoke among other things about racism in sport, then ruth tanner from 'war on want' told us about olympic sponsor adidas's 34 pence per hour wages to indonesian workers providing the olympic kit.

next up was naomi who was one of the cyclists arrested last night on the peaceful critical mass bike ride. she told a harrowing story of her arrest and subsequent treatment by police, then quoted olympic black power activist john carlos and got the crowd chanting "i am not afraid of offending my oppressor."

chris nineham spoke on behalf of the 'olympics missile campaign,' and pointed out the records already broken by team GB. the record number of arrests at an olympic opening, the highest ever ticket prices, and the record militarisation of the games.

next up was john mcdonnell who said he was there to show solidarity with the victims of dow and atos. he said it was time to reclaim the olympics, kick out the corporations and make it about sport again. he also said it was time to campaign to change the system. quite why he's a labour MP i've never understood - he certainly doesn't speak for the labour party, and instead says many sensible things.

gail chester spoke on behalf of the counter olympics network and then she introduced julian cheyne who told us about the counter-olympics torch relays, and officially handed over the vancouver torch to representatives from nosochi2014.com who told us about the plight of the circasian people exiled from their lands by genocide and erased from history by the russians. two circasians showed us a traditional dance and we heard some of their language. they will parade the torch at the sochi winter olympics before passing it on again to activists in rio for 2016.

we then heard from rio activist teresa williamson, who is concerned among other things that the 2016 olympics will see further displacement of the poor there in the guise of regeneration. she informed us that while the favelas are portrayed as the worst slums, in fact many of the more established favelas are a cheap place to live, with reasonable sanitation, internet access, and community solidarity - they are afraid the olympics will wipe them away and destroy their communities.

police were apparently getting itchy about an overrun of the agreed protest time, and organisers felt it necessary to cut short many more of the planned speakers, finishing with a performance from the bp-or-not-bp.org 'reclaim shakespeare company'.

this article was originally published at london.indymedia.org/articles/12629 and is reprinted with permission.

editor's note: the london olympics will cost taxpayers an estimated 17 billion. some believe the international olympic committee (ioc) are the new imperialist empire. there are many more stories of olympic resistance: www.gamesmonitor.org.uk, www.protestlondon2012.com, bp-or-not-bp.org, counterolympicsnetwork.wordpress.com, www.democracynow.org/2012/7/26/lockdown_in_london_professor_ex_us



Seeking Submissions for Working Class Vegan Zine

Submissions should be between 1/2 a page to 5 pages in length (single spaced). We are open to many formats, from personal stories, to personal essays, to critiques, poetry, recipes, cartoons, jokes, or rants and tips. You can write about your struggles with food, or with mainstream liberal vegans, working with animals, why a plant based diet is important to you, nutrition, activism, wild harvesting, dumpster diving, or about how you have navigated the various barriers to eating healthy on a low budget and useful skills or information you have learned along the way.

Send submissions by September 30th to workingclassvegan@hotmail.com



ask hothead

"Hey hothead, am I a political prisoner?"

As an anarchist, I believe in a colonial system, which creates poverty and generational abuse, anyone in jail for drug related offences are political prisoners. Dr. Gabor Maté taught us, humans have used drugs to deal with pain as far back as we can remember. Colonial Rule creates unnecessary pain thus unnecessary suffering. It is separation of class, race, sex, and so on. Divide and rule.

Punishing citizens of the world for using pain medications since the Drug Control Laws were formed. If we keep separate, the system wins.

In Solidarity: Prisoner's Justice Day Victoria, August 10th 2012.

(the following is excerpted from Prisoner's Justice Day Committee Vancouver, and reprinted with permission: www.prisonjustice.ca/prisonjustice/politics/1014_history.html)

The Building of a Super Max: Fashioned after Archambault Maximum Security Prison in Quebec, Millhaven was being built to replace the old Kingston Penitentiary, and many prisoners and staff were to be transferred over. This new type of prison was designed with surveillance and control in mind.

On August 10th 1974: Prisoner Eddie Nalon bled to death in the segregation unit of Millhaven Maximum Security Prison located in Bath, Ontario. Eddie was serving a life sentence and had been in and out of segregation from the start of his sentence. He was well familiar with prison procedure and knew the workings of the Segregation Review Board. Even though Eddie took his own life in the early morning hours of August 10th, evidence clearly shows that the hand that held the razor blade belongs solely to the prison system and its apathetic administrators.

August 10, 1975: On the first anniversary of Eddie's death, August 10th 1975, prisoners at Millhaven refused to work, went on a one day hunger strike and held a memorial service, even though it would mean a stint in solitary confinement. Many of the alleged leaders in this one day peaceful protest would still be in segregation a year later. Note: although refusing to eat or refusing to work are among the only options for peaceful protest available to prisoners, both are viewed as disciplinary offences by prison administrations.

The Death of Robert Landers: On May 21st, 1976 another prisoner died in the segregation unit of Millhaven Prison. Bobby was very active and outspoken in the struggle for Prisoners Rights. He had been doing his time at Archambault Maximum Security Prison, near Montreal, Quebec. He was on the Inmate Committee at Archambault, where prisoners were in the process of organizing a prisoner strike to better conditions inside. Bobby was involuntarily transferred to Millhaven just before the strike in January 1976 and thrown into the Hole. On the night before he died Bobby tried to get medical help, however, the panic buttons in the cells had still not been repaired. He wanted to see the nurse, who could be heard laughing and talking with guards out in the office, at the end of the range. He and three other prisoners all called out for her to come on to the range, but were ignored by both the nurse and the guards. In the morning they found Bobby dead and a scribbled note on his bed that requested medical aid and described symptoms that indicated a heart problem. At the inquest into his death it was determined that he died from a heart attack and a heart specialist confirmed that he should have been in an intensive care unit, not in solitary confinement.

August 10th, 1976: Thousands of prisoners across Canada went on a one day hunger strike. While Prison Justice Day Committees were formed in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia to organize community events to draw attention to the prisoners concerns. In BC, ex-prisoners, the United Prisoners' Rights Movement (later to become the Prisoners' Rights Group), The Women Prisoners' & Prisoners' Family Rights Committee of the BC Federation of Women (later to become Joint Effort), Public Education About Prisons, the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, lawyers and concerned citizens joined together to organize a 24 hour Vigil & Fast outside both the BC Penitentiary in New Westminster and Oakalla Regional Correctional Centre in Burnaby. The groups would highlight a number of issues, some of which are still the focus today:

Prison Justice Day becomes International Day of Solidarity with Prisoners: In 1983, prisoners in France refused to eat in recognition of August 10th, the following statement would be read on the Paris radio station Fréquence-Libre:

"Why not have on August 10 an international day of solidarity with our imprisoned brothers and sisters, For here or elsewhere, prison kills, Whether it be Nalon in Ontario, Bader or Meinhoff in West Germany, Claude or Ivan in Switzerland, Bobby Sands in Ireland, Mirval, Haadjadj, Onno, Youssef or so many others in France, Whether they are serving 53 years like Alexandre Cotte or 16 years like Youssef, Whether they are considered political or common prisoners, PRISON KILLS!"

By the mid 1990s prisoners in parts of Germany, England and the United States would join this day of peaceful protest.

My condolences and respect goes out to the families of Tami Turner who inspired Victoria's PJD chapter as she herself spent half her life incarcerated. Tami had informed me about the sad passing away of Laurie Hunter and Colleen Lawler. Spud passed away just after Tami. A great loss occurred for our homeless as well as our greater community here in this Sundown Town of Victoria B.C Canada.

Shout Out to Booby!

Kym is an anarchist visiting in Lkungan Territory.

500 Rivers

by Marian van der Zon

The song, 500 Rivers, is about water, an increasingly contentious resource, that is becoming more and more privatized.

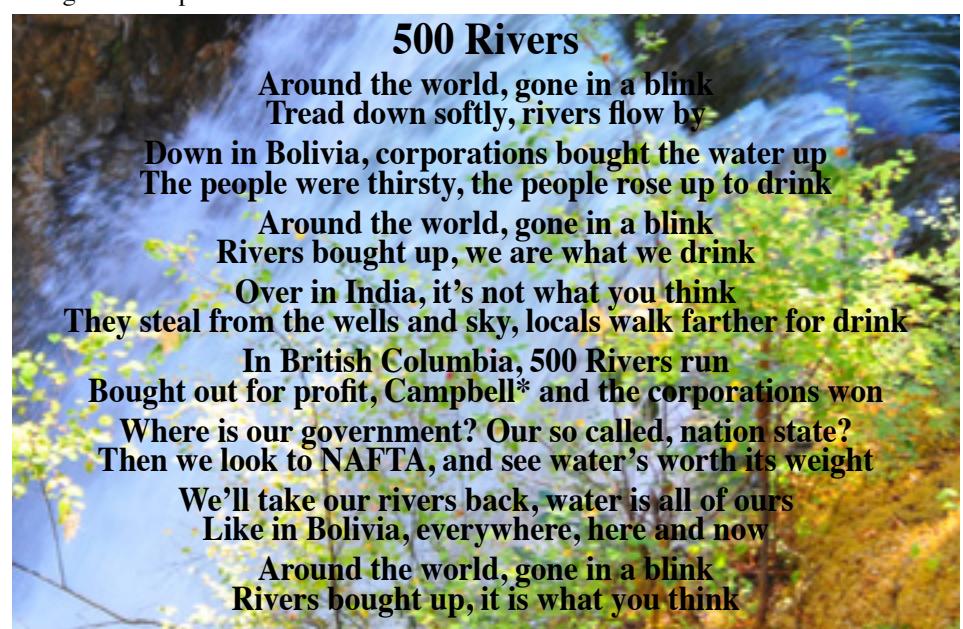
Maude Barlow, Council of Canadians, works tirelessly on the issue of water, trying to ensure that it can be accessed by everyone because it is a human right, rather than a need that can be delivered by anyone – anyone often ends up being corporations who do not have our best interests in mind.

In Bolivia, in the late 1990s, The World Bank made water privatization a condition of their loan. Shortly after, water prices soared through the roof, and citizens had to choose between food and water. When they could no longer survive, they revolted. After many deaths, the private water contract was rescinded.

In India, corporations like Pepsi and Coke have purchased water rights, making it illegal for citizens to capture the rain water from their roofs.

In British Columbia, the rights to 500 of our rivers, our water, for hydroelectric power have been sold to international Corporations.* BC Hydro now buys much of its power from these companies, and our hydro prices have risen dramatically and will continue to do so. There are so many examples that illustrate the increasing importance of water - First Nations reserves in Manitoba do not have access to clean water.

Water is what inspired the song, 500 Rivers. It is on Puzzleroot's second CD, *Square Pie* – you can hear the song at: www.puzzleroot.com



* Gordon Campbell was Premier of BC from 2001 until he resigned in November 2010 after receiving the Canadian Olympic Order from the Canadian Olympic Committee for being a dedicated proponent of the Olympic Movement. In August 2011, Campbell was appointed "Canadian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom."

Looming Threats to the Sacred Headwaters

by Don Startin

In the northwest corner of our province, just to the east of the Alaska Panhandle, is a vast area the size of Oregon known to us as The Sacred Headwaters. Its rightful owners, The Thaltan First Nation, call it KLABONA.

Klabona is a virtually untouched panorama of mountains intersected by a veritable maze of lakes and rivers that drain into the Skeena, Nass, Stikine, Findlay, and Liard rivers. It is a treasure house of wildlife habitat, and free flowing salmon spawning streams except for the Findlay the lower reaches of which are blocked by the infamous Willesden Reservoir which by stealing water from the Athabasca Delta reduced it in size by two thirds, and put the Athabasca Cree fur trappers out of business.

Readers will be glad to hear that Shell Canada's Klappan Coalbed Methane Project is on hold indefinitely. I checked with their public relations officer (PRO) in Calgary, and he confirmed with headquarters in Holland because at a recent public meeting there it was announced that they would be going ahead. However, continued vigilance is required on this one.

If it does go ahead one million acres of prime wildlife habitat will be intersected with roads, pipelines and wells. Toxic groundwater will be pumped out, and toxic fracking fluid pumped back in under pressure to free the methane from the anthracite beds. This will be taking place about 90K northeast of Bob Quinn Lake on the Cassiar Highway where twit Harper's North West Transmission Line will end, and slap dab over the epicenter of the Sacred Headwaters where the Skeena, Nass, and Stikine rivers rise.

The Red Chris Mine, if attempted, will be an environmental disaster of epic proportions and may well decimate the salmon runs in the Stikine River, and its tributary the Iskut River. It will surely severely impact the lives of the large population of mountain goats and Stone sheep that presently range in Todagin South Slope Provincial Park.

Locating the mine involves some tricky map reading. Get a quality tourist map of B.C. Now find Iskut on the Cassiar Highway. 25 miles south of Iskut find Todagin South Slope Provincial Park. The minesite runs from the northern tip of the park north east across to the Klappan River. The western boundary heads north up through the eastern end of Ealue Lake and stops level with Iskut. It is a ragged rectangle based on the original mining claims. I estimate the area to be 12K wide by 20K from north to south.

Imperial Metals plan to extract copper and gold concentrates from the site in a vast open pit operation backed by a crusher and a flotation plant. The concentrates will be exported out of the port of Stewart. They were kind enough to send me a lot of progress reports, including a map of the site, but wouldn't answer any questions over the phone on what their tailings plan consists of and what acids will be used in the grinding process. In October we'll take a close look at the environmental implications of such a mine, and if space permits a look at the corrupt way in which it got environmental approval, and a taxpayer supplied subsidy.

Don Startin is an activist and gardener, an ex-military man who lives a life of simplicity with his wife in Victoria, B.C.

Change Without War

Bursting at the seams
waiting to exhale
suffocating in the old
and longing to set sail
the light is beaming
through the dark fog
clearing with a breeze
refreshing is a new plain
now appearing, past the trees
a journey through
the winding trails
is ready to end
as it entailed
suffering in survival
wasted energy
while there's hunger to thrive
and run, so free
further and further away lost
upon a clear path
hurdling over roadblocks
placed by drones who laugh
though be anguished no more
have faith; stand with the Truth
and pick through the locks on doors
for there's no point at all
in begging for a key
held onto by the merciless
infatuated with greed
WE can believe in change
trusting not precedents
that had been set to serve
the way that things once went
and so the earth must turn
as we dance with evolution
and when the innocent burn
due to spiritual pollution
its' time for us to step up
shouting loud "we'll take no more!"
Then, only in the name of love
We'll make Change Without War

N.M. Rose Guedes, August 1, 2012
outsidetheboxgirlpoems.blogspot.ca

**Do You Want to Lose Weight?
Tired of Expensive Diets?**

TRY THE 610 DIET

On this plan you are guaranteed to lose over 20 pounds in a month, without buying special food or membership of a fitness club. In Fact You Will Save \$\$\$.



To find out more, go to: 610dietplan.com

Lose Weight at the Welfare Rate
Brought to you by the Government of British Columbia

Anarchist Libraries!

... in Fernwood ...



... and in Fairfield

Whose Games? Whose City?

If we must only speak good of Olympics
let's plan the future, how it yet could be.
A permanent site. No four year competition.
Why not in Athens where it all began?
Let all the states, like ours, that spent a fortune
competing where to hold it here or there,
instead donate, repair, rebuild what's needed.
No fireworks needed, flashy show, or hubris
But try to gain one hundred days of peace.

*an excerpt from a Soliloquy on the Olympics
written by Newham resident, Gwyn -
published at bp-or-not-bp.org*

throwing away sense

H Miller said
"i am the machine..."
or some other such nonsense that
won't hunt when
yer half starved and bedding
down in the alley. Another
ugly American retelling
of the same profane myth:
put yer money in the sewer
and you will earn wings. Rubbish.
being broke never
set anyone out of the cage.
only a fool who had money
could ever whistle so loud
about its absence.

j. fisher

**varieties of life
in vancouver's downtown eastside**

crows grackle in polluted air,
on streets upon alley ways
transient humans
bounce off of one another
in a daily dance of guilt,
for things they, us, we, me ...
have not actually ever done.

politics hovers over all of this anarchy
like some homeless overweight albatross
shadowing an ancient mariners' ship
legislated poor are pushed door to door
too many homeless ones abound abound

gentrification creeps surely slowly as rust or time
upon this populace so out of their natural clime
yet mice rats other smaller softer little lives
quietly go about their underworld
rodent business ...

shitty hall tries to ignore all of the above
giving priorities, favors to other hoods
undaunted, defiant brave activists
fight bureaucracy on and on and on
to maintain - survive - love - on and on

ubiquitous crows mischievously hop about
reminding us too narrow humans that
all mobile life is equal,
all life, all over our earth,
is indescribably precious

john alan douglas march 2012

**Professor Lawrence Britt's
14 Points of Fascism**

1. Powerful and Continuing Nationalism
2. Suppressed Labor Power
3. Disdain for the Recognition of Human Rights
4. Protected Corporate Power
5. Identification of Enemies/Scapegoats as a Unifying Cause
6. Intertwined Religion and Government
7. Supremacy of the Military
8. Disdain for Intellectuals and the Arts
9. Rampant Sexism
10. Obsession with Crime and Punishment
11. Controlled Mass Media
12. Rampant Cronyism and Corruption
13. Obsession with National Security
14. Fraudulent Elections

source: dissidentvoice.org/2012/07/democratic-totalitarianism-is-this-canadas-last-summer

Aurora Massacre

The survivors will hug and tell their stories
With flashing lights the living and the dead
Will be taken to the morgues and to the hospitals
We'll hear about the last words that they said
At least if it was a notable occasion
Like if it happened just down the road from Columbine
If the victims numbered in the dozens
The murder plan especially malign
The governor will talk about the senselessness
The madness that must explain the crime
Some will ask about the guns, six thousand rounds of ammunition
He bought legally all at the same time
If the murders were especially dramatic
This man will have his week of fame
But by around this time next year
Just a few will remember his name

Fewer still will remember his victims
In this great nation that seems to have no peer
And who can blame us for our amnesia
With fourteen thousand killed by guns last year
But for now they'll talk about his methods
They'll ask how he came to be this way
They'll hire more policemen in the theaters
It's another massacre in the USA

They'll ask about his schooling
Who could have seen these warning signs
Some will ask why he had access
To buying an assault combine
Former victims will speak out on the TV
They'll have a platform for just a little while
Until something else takes over
Like a storm or a fire or the latest summer style

They'll talk about violent films and video games
The social disconnection of the youth
They'll talk about the cubicles and headsets
With each one separated in a little booth
They'll talk about bullying in schools
They'll talk about all sorts of social ills
They'll ask if he smoked marijuana
And if he was on any kinds of pills

The corpses will be removed from the theater
They'll replace the seats and wash away blood stains
The NRA will lay low for a week or two
While pouring money into electoral campaigns
The President will praise the First Responders
And ask God for these madmen to be cured
The Assault Weapons Ban will be voted down in Congress
And the next massacre will be assured

David Rovics, davidrovics.com

The amazing and awesome Street Newz Vendor Team



Bernie
Beacon Hill



Brad
Bastion Square



Craig
London Drugs



Doug
Fort St.



Evelyn
Cook St. Village



For information about joining this team contact **John** at 250-886-5863 or visit his "office" near Fort on Douglas St.



Ken
Douglas @ Yates



Nicole
Bastion Square



Richard
Douglas near Fort



Rose
Gov't St.



Shirley
James Bay Thrift's



Trish
Esquimalt

Where Your \$\$\$\$\$\$ Goes

Victoria Street Newz

Vendors pay 50 cents for each Street Newz. Whatever you give them is theirs to keep.

Thank you for supporting independent media. May money from the sale of this newspaper be used for peace, and pass through healing hands.

Vancity



	June	July	August
Street Newz Revenue			
Paper Sales (from previous mth)	347.50	486.50	483.50
Donations	156.00	560.00	60.00
Gifts (incl in-kind)	210.00	40.00	40.00
Co-ordinator's Contribution	247.50	282.36	-104.83
Subscriptions	35.00	35.00	0.00
Bread & Roses Donation to SNZ	800.00	800.00	800.00
Total Street Newz Revenue	1301.00	2203.86	1278.67
Street Newz Expenses			
Salaries	800.00	800.00	800.00
Paper & Printing Costs	0.00	234.08	234.08
Office expenses/website	40.00	105.00	40.00
Vendor/Writer Meetings/Support	65.00	406.00	80.00
Postage	45.00	73.78	74.59
Ttl Street Newz Expenses	950.00	1618.88	1228.67
Street Newz	351.00	585.00	50.00
Bread & Roses Revenue			
Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Bread & Roses Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bread & Roses Expenses			
Street Newz Donation	800.00	800.00	800.00
Ttl Bread & Roses Expenses	800.00	800.00	800.00
Bread & Roses	-800.00	-800.00	-800.00
Consolidated Ttl (SNZ + B&R)	-449.00	-215.00	-750.00
Bread & Roses Bank Balance	6848.43	6084.52	5249.52
Conference Fund	110.00	110.00	110.00

Subscriptions and Support !!

Subscription Rates (12 issues/year):

Electronic	Regular	Low Income	USA	Int'l
\$20	\$35	\$20	\$40	\$50

Donations keep us Independent:

\$10	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100	\$200	other
------	------	------	------	-------	-------	-------

Name:

Address:

City:

Province/State: Postal/Zip:

Phone/email:

Please return to:
Victoria Street Newz
1027 Pandora Ave, Vic BC,
Coast Salish Territories, V8V 3P6
 or donate safely online - relativewz.ca

Thanks for your support!